

# **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

February 8, 2021

From:

Will Ng

File:

09-5000-01/2021-Vol

01

Superintendent, Officer in Charge

Re:

RCMP Monthly Activity Report — January 2021

## Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "RCMP Monthly Activity Report - January 2021", dated February 8, 2021, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

Superintendent, Officer in Charge

(604-278-1212)

Att. 4

| REPORT CONCURRENCE             |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER |           |
| SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW     | Initials: |
| APPROVED BY CAO                |           |

# Staff Report

At the request of the Community Safety Committee, the Officer in Charge will keep Council informed on matters pertaining to policing in the Richmond community. This monthly activity report for the RCMP provides information on each of the following areas:

- 1. Activities and Noteworthy Files
- 2. Analysis of Police Statistics
- 3. Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions
- 4. Auxiliary Program
- 5. Block Watch
- 6. Community Police Station Programs
- 7. Crime Prevention Unit
- 8. Road Safety Unit
- 9. Victim Services
- 10. Youth Section

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #1 A Safe and Resilient City:

Enhance and protect the safety and well-being of Richmond.

## **Analysis**

#### Activities and Noteworthy Files

#### Homicide

On January 7, 2021, Richmond RCMP officers responded to a shooting near the area of Moncton Street and No. 1 Road. At the scene Police located a male victim suffering from gunshot wounds. The man was transported to hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. The man was known to police and investigators believe the shooting to be targeted. The Richmond RCMP Serious Crime Unit and the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) are investigating.

#### Arrest

On January 7, 2021, Richmond RCMP Property Crime Unit officers arrested a known offender on three outstanding warrants, including assault causing bodily harm, break and enter and mail theft. Investigators had linked the suspect to a series of break and enters dating back to October 3, 2020 however the suspect remained at large. The man now faces 13 additional break and enter charges.

#### Homicide

On January 9, 2021, Richmond RCMP officers responded to a shooting at a residence in the 8100 block of Lansdowne Road. A male victim suffered multiple gunshot wounds and later succumbed to his injuries. The man was known to police and investigators believe the shooting was targeted. The Richmond RCMP Serious Crime Unit and IHIT are investigating.

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#### Pedestrian Hit and Run

On January 12, 2021, Richmond RCMP officers attended the 8500 block of Ackroyd Road for a vehicle collision involving a pedestrian. The pedestrian was exiting his parked vehicle when he was struck; the driver did not remain at the scene. The pedestrian was transported to hospital and received treatment for minor injuries. The Richmond RCMP issued a media release on January 20, 2021 with a description of the suspect driver and vehicle. The investigation is ongoing.

#### Analysis of Police Statistics

#### Arson

In January 2021, there were seven reported arsons, which is down nine incidents from the previous month and up five incidents from January 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of arsons this month is above the expected range.

#### Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 16 assault serious events in January 2021, which is a 36 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 45 per cent increase from January 2020. Charges have been laid in seven of the incidents reported this month. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is above the expected range.

#### Auto Theft

In January 2021, there were 18 incidents of auto theft, which is a 31 per cent reduction from the previous month and a 49 per cent reduction from January 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the expected range.

## Drugs

In January 2021, there were 41 drug files, which is up 46 per cent from the previous month and down 78 per cent from January 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the expected range.

#### Mental Health

There were 124 mental health-related incidents in January 2021, which is down 12 per cent from the previous month and down 25 per cent from January 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the expected range.

Police apprehension numbers decreased to 84 events this month, representing a 21 per cent reduction from the previous month and the average hospital wait time increased seven per cent to 80 minutes. Both of these statistics are within the expected range.

#### Residential Break and Enter

There were 39 break and enters to residences in January 2021, which represents a 17 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 17 per cent decrease from January 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the expected range.

#### Commercial Break and Enter

In January 2021, there were 23 break and enters to businesses, which represents an eight per cent reduction from the previous month and a 26 per cent reduction from January 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is within the expected range.

## Robbery

There were five robbery incidents in January 2021, which is up one incident from the previous month and up two incidents from January 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the expected range.

#### Sexual Offences

In January 2021, there were 15 sexual offence files, which represents a 67 per cent increase from the previous month and a 12 per cent decrease from January 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is within the expected range.

#### Shoplifting

There were 71 shoplifting thefts in January 2021, which up nine per cent from the previous month and up 13 per cent from January 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of reported shoplifting thefts this month is within the expected range.

#### Theft from Automobile

There were 134 theft from automobile incidents in January 2021, which is down five per cent from the previous month and down 29 per cent from January 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is below the expected range.

#### COVID-19 Statistics

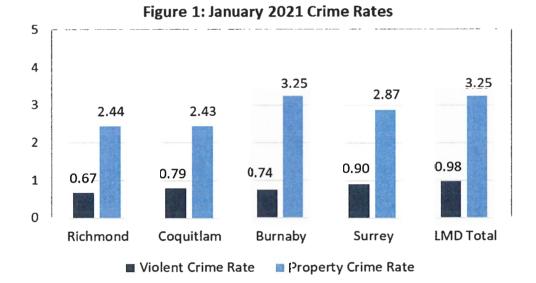
Table 1 outlines the number of police calls for service related to COVID-19. In January 2021, the COVID-19-Related Measures Act was amended and enforceable orders were moved under the Emergency Program Act. There were 35 COVID-19-related files this month. The majority of incidents were related to reports of social gatherings and failure to wear a mask.

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| Table 1: COVID-19-related Calls for Service January 2021 |    |  |  |  |  |
|--|----|--|--|--|--|
| Total COVID-19-related files                             | 35 |  |  |  |  |
| Quarantine Act (Federal)                                 | 4  |  |  |  |  |
| Public Health Act (Provincial)                           | 5  |  |  |  |  |
| Emergency Program Act                                    | 23 |  |  |  |  |
| COVID-19-Related Measures Act                            | 3  |  |  |  |  |

# Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Between late November 2020 and early January 2021, there were seven gang related homicides in the Lower Mainland, including two targeted shootings in Richmond. Despite these incidents, the overall violent crime rate in Richmond declined six per cent in January 2021, compared to January 2020. Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.<sup>1</sup> Out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate and the second lowest property crime rate in January 2021.



<sup>1</sup> Crime rate is calculated per 1,000 people.

## **Auxiliary Program**

In January 2021, the Richmond RCMP Detachment had a complement of 31 Auxiliaries.<sup>2</sup> Due to COVID-19 safety protocols, volunteer activities have been significantly reduced. Auxiliaries provided a total of 146 volunteer hours during the month of January.

Figure 2: Auxiliary Volunteer Hours Total Jul NOV Dec Jan Apr May Jun Aug 

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Figure 2 compares the monthly hours of service provided from 2017 to 2021.

## Auxiliary Program Activities

Auxiliaries attend events in the community to promote a positive police presence, support RCMP members and assist with community policing and crime prevention initiatives, as well as traffic and crowd control. During the month of January, Auxiliaries participated in:

- Administrative Support
- Bait Car
- Home Security Checks (virtual)

## **Block Watch**

At the end of January 2021, the Block Watch program had 304 groups totaling 6,568 participants. Currently, the program includes 436 captains and co-captains. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Block Watch program has suspended training for new captains.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Previously referred to as Auxiliary Constables.

# Community Police Station Programs

Community police stations enhance the Richmond RCMP Detachment's policing services by providing an array of crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all three community police stations have been closed to the public since March 2020. Volunteer deployments resumed in June 2020, in accordance with guidelines established by RCMP "E" Division's Crime Prevention Services; however, the scope of volunteer activities has been limited. City staff and volunteers continue to pursue safety initiatives to enhance crime prevention program awareness, community engagement and police accessibility.

During the month of January volunteer highlights included:

- January 7 Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Lock-Out Auto Crime deployment at Aberdeen Mall and issued 13 information letters. Crime prevention notices have been temporarily replaced by information letters, which are mailed to registered vehicle owners.
- January 11 –RCMP officers and volunteers conducted a Pedestrian Safety deployment at Lansdowne Mall and distributed 314 safety reflectors.
- January 14 RCMP officers and volunteers conducted a Pedestrian Safety deployment at Richmond Centre/Brighouse Station and distributed 500 safety reflectors.
- January 20 RCMP officers and volunteers conducted a Pedestrian Safety deployment in Steveston Village and distributed 400 safety reflectors.
- January 26 Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with Lock-Out Auto Crime deployments in the city centre and issued 41 information letters.
- January 28 Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Lock-Out Auto Crime deployment at the McArthur Glen Outlet Mall and issued 44 information letters.

## Lock Out Auto Crime

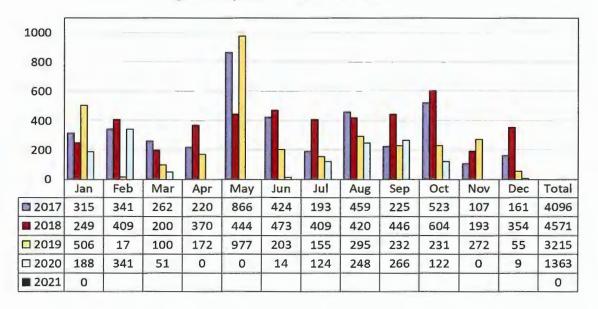
Figure 3 provides a comparison by year of the number of vehicle notices issued.<sup>3</sup>

Feb May Jun Jul Oct Total Jan Mar Apr Aug Sep Nov Dec □ 2020 ■ 2021 

Figure 3: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice

# Speed Watch

Figure 4 provides a yearly comparison of the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners.



**Figure 4: Speed Watch Letters Sent** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Beginning in November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices.

## Crime Prevention Unit

The Crime Prevention Unit reduces crime and enhances community engagement through public awareness and education initiatives. During the month of January, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in the following events/activities:

- Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives
- Foot Patrols
- Lock Out Auto Crime

- Pedestrian Safety
- Place of Worship Patrols
- Safe Place Program

# Road Safety Unit

The Road Safety Unit makes Richmond's roads safer through evidence-based traffic enforcement, investigation of serious vehicle collisions and public education programs. Table 2 compares statistics for January 2021 to both November 2020 and December 2020. Violation Tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

| Infraction                      | November 2020 | December 2020 | January 2021 |  |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| Distracted Driving              | 84            | 122           | 82           |  |
| Driver License                  | 207           | 198           | 183          |  |
| Impaired                        | 27            | 35            | 26           |  |
| Intersection Offences           | 54            | 55            | 57           |  |
| Moving Infractions <sup>4</sup> | 217           | 204           | 168          |  |
| Speeding                        | 332           | 289           | 320          |  |
| Seatbelts                       | 4             | 2             | 1            |  |
| Vehicle Related <sup>5</sup>    | 82            | 109           | 98           |  |
| Other <sup>6</sup>              | 0             | 49            | 11           |  |
| Total                           | 1,007         | 1,063         | 946          |  |

## Victim Services

In January 2021, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 73 new clients and attended seven crime/trauma scenes after hours. Victim Services reduced in-person client services in March 2020 and began offering services by phone but continue to attend some of the more serious calls in-person. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 236 files. In January, Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, drug overdoses, mental health issues and two fatal shootings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Moving infractions refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Other refers to miscellaneous charges including fail to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

## Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP Detachment's Youth Section focuses on strategies that contribute to safe and healthy behaviours essential to the development of productive and civic-minded adults. During the month of January, Youth Section highlights included:

- 104 Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) classes were delivered via Zoom as the program continued through virtual lessons. Grade 5 students in 16 schools are participating in the second term of the DARE program.
- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 61 proactive school visits at Secondary Schools and 73 visits at Elementary Schools. Police officers engaged with the students at recess and lunch, as well as during morning and afternoon supervision.

# Financial Impact

None.

#### Conclusion

In January 2021, the Richmond RCMP conducted a number of noteworthy investigations, including two fatal targeted shootings. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the expected range. However, serious assaults and arsons were above the expected range, while thefts from automobiles were below the expected range.

In January, the Richmond RCMP Community Engagement Team and volunteers conducted Pedestrian Safety deployments and distributed over 1,200 safety reflectors. In addition, the DARE program began its second term, which is continuing with virtual lessons. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.

Edward Warzek Manager, RCMP Administration

(604-207-4767)

EW:

Att. 1: Community Policing Programs

- 2: Crime Statistics
- 3: Crime Maps
- 4: Crime Prevention Newsletter

# **Auxiliary Constables**

- The primary mandate of Richmond's Auxiliary Constables is to support community policing activities related to public safety and crime prevention.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/auxiliary.htm

#### **Block Watch**

- Community-based crime prevention program aimed at helping neighbors organize themselves to prevent crime.
- Residents can receive email alerts of neighbourhood residential break and enters by registering their email addresses at: <a href="mailto:blockwatch@richmond.ca">blockwatch@richmond.ca</a>
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/blockwatch.htm

## Distracted Driving Program

- Trained volunteers monitor intersections and observe distracted drivers.
- A letter is sent to the registered owner of the offending vehicle with information on the safety risks associated to the observed behaviour and applicable fine amounts.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/programs.htm

## Fail to Stop

- Trained volunteers monitor areas that have been referred to the program by local businesses or residents where drivers are not making a full stop at the stop sign, or running a red light.
- An information letter is sent to the registered owner of the vehicle advising them the
  date, time and location and applicable fine amounts if the driver received a violation
  ticket.

#### Lock Out Auto Crime

- Co-sponsored by the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC), volunteers patrol city streets and parking lots looking for automobile security vulnerabilities.
- Notices supplied by ICBC are issued to every vehicle inspected indicating to the owner what issues need to be addressed in order to keep the vehicle and contents secure.

- For more information, visit
- www.richmond.ca/safety/police/personal/vehicle.htm

# Project 529

- This program allows riders to easily and securely register their bikes. This up-to-date database of bikes alerts its registrants if a fellow 529 bike is stolen.
- Project 529 is a unique, multi-national registry that holds a database of all registered and stolen bikes.

# Speed Watch

- Co-sponsored by ICBC, promotes safe driving habits by alerting drivers of their speed.
- Trained volunteers are equipped with radar and a speed watch reader board that gives drivers instant feedback regarding their speed.
- Volunteers record the license plate number and the speed, and a letter is sent to the registered owner of the offending vehicle. The letter includes the date, time and location and applicable fine amounts if the driver received a violation ticket.

# Stolen Auto Recovery

- Co-sponsored by ICBC, trained volunteers equipped with portable computers identify stolen vehicles.
- These volunteers recover hundreds of stolen vehicles each year throughout the Lower Mainland.

# Volunteer Bike and Foot Patrol Program

• Trained volunteers patrol Richmond neighbourhoods reporting suspicious activities and providing a visible deterrent to crime and public order issues.

# **JANUARY 2021 STATISTICS**

## RICHMOND RCMP

This chart identifies the monthly totals for founded Criminal Code incidents, excluding traffic-related Criminal Code incidents. Based on Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) scoring, there are three categories: (1) Violent Crime, (2) Property Crime, and (3) Other Criminal Code. Within each category, particular offence types are highlighted in this chart. In addition, monthly totals for Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) incidents and MHA-related calls for service are included. Individual UCR codes are indicated below the specific crime type.

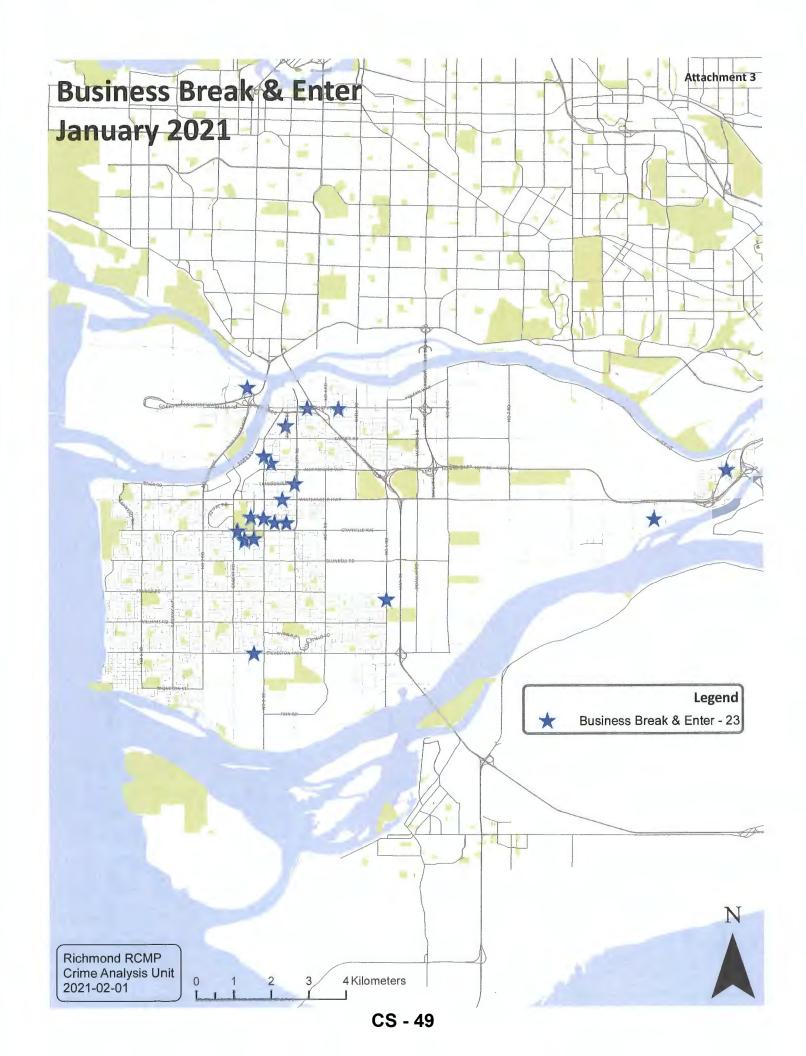
In 2019, changes were implemented regarding the collection of UCR data. The new standards provide much more stringent criteria to classify a file as unfounded. As a result, there will be an increase in many crime statistics, and clearance rates will conversely decline. This creates numerous challenges when comparing previous years' data. Full details on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey are available at Statistics Canada: https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54973-eng.htm. For more information, contact Richmond Crime Analysts.

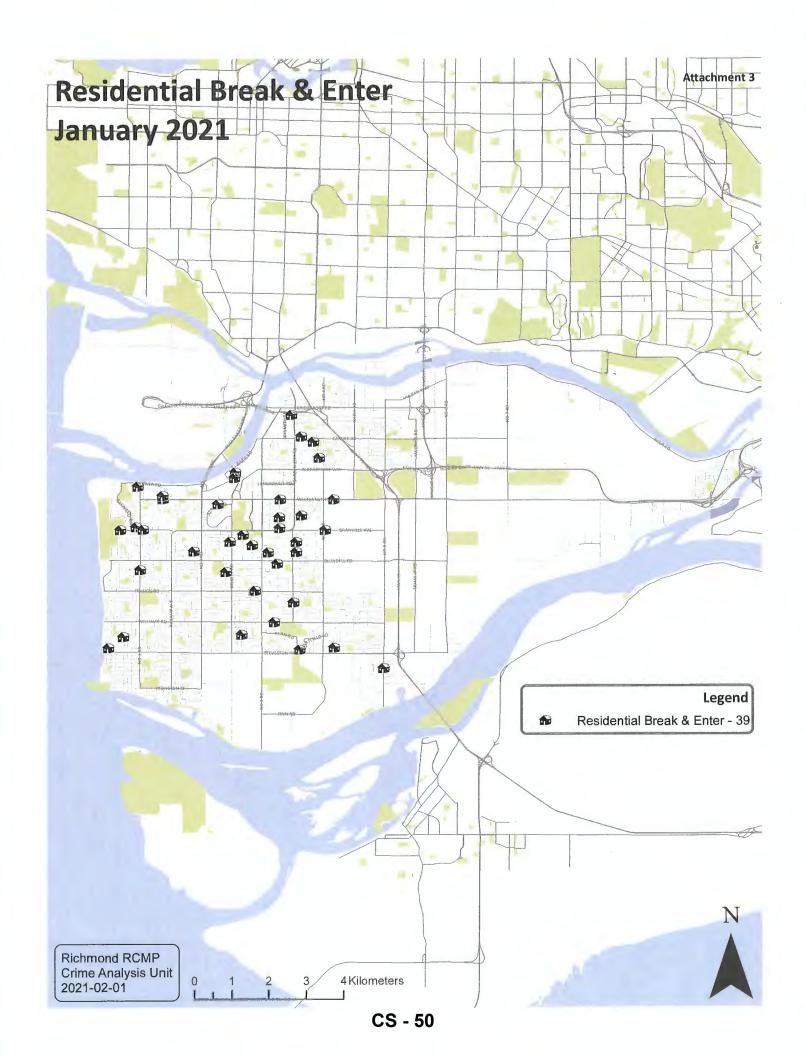
The 5 year average range data is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in red. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range due to primarily non-operational reasons such as the new UCR standards or other scoring issues, the total will be noted in purple. Below expected numbers will be noted in blue.

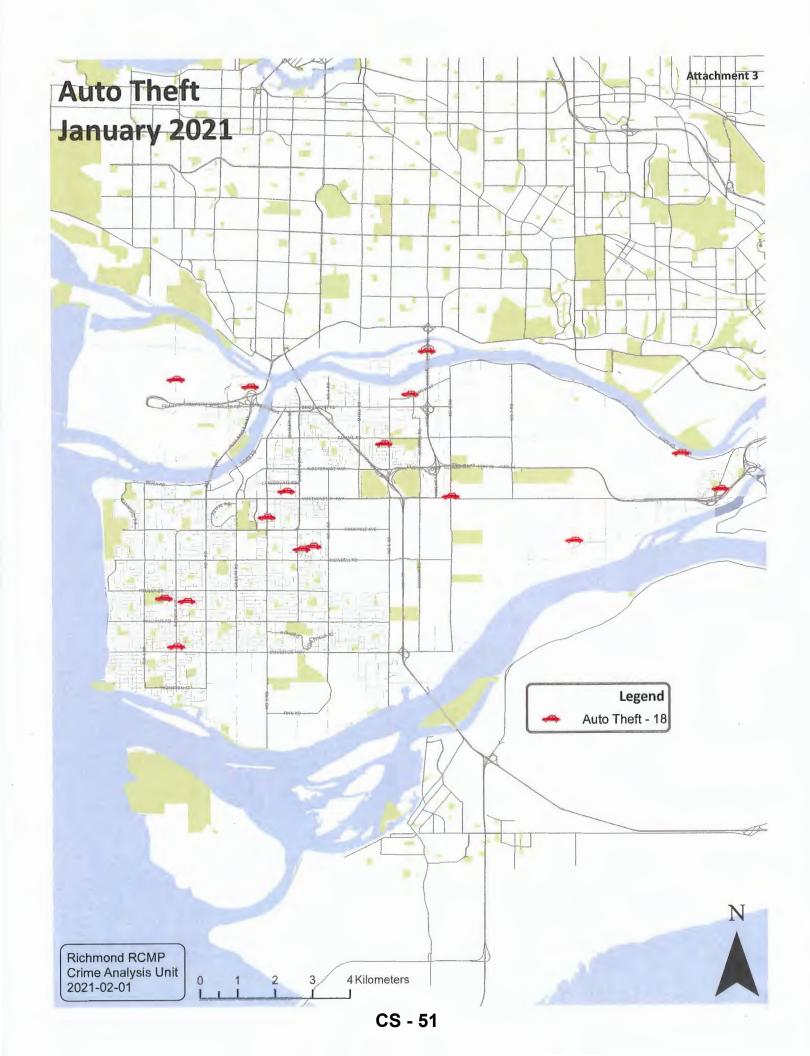
Year-to-Date percentage change is used to numbers from the prior year, but the new CCJS/UCR standards reduce the utility of this metric. 2019 YTD numbers will be biased to increase from the 2018 totals, despite any positive police action.

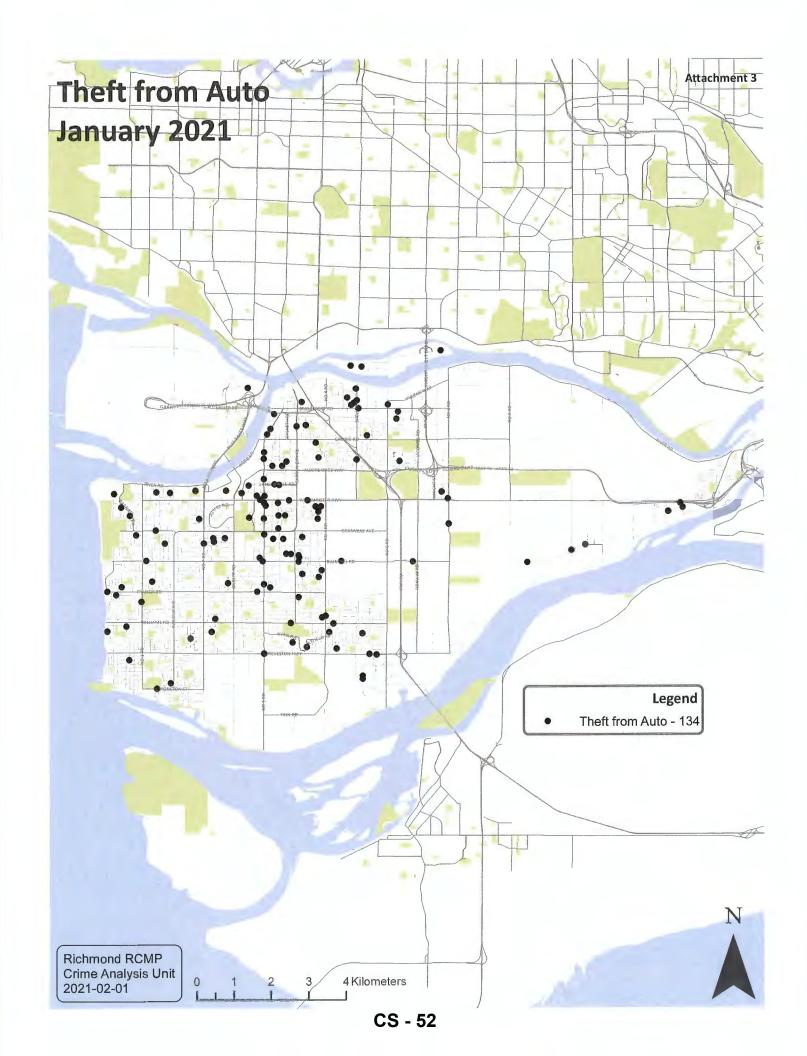
|   | Month  | 5-Yr Avg | 5-Yr Range |      | Year to Date Totals |          |          |  | Year to Date Totals |  |
|---|--------|----------|------------|------|---------------------|----------|----------|--|---------------------|--|
|   | Jan-21 | January  |            | 2020 | 2021                | % Change | # Change |  |                     |  |
| VIOLENT CRIME<br>(UCR 1000-Series Offences)         | 148    | 123.4    | 103-144    | 133  | 148                 | 11%      | 15       |  |                     |  |
| Robbery   | 5      | 6,4      | 3-9        | 3    | 5                   | 67%      | 2        |  |                     |  |
| Assault Common                                      | 48     | 47.2     | 42-53      | 56   | 48                  | -14%     | -8       |  |                     |  |
| Assault Serious                                     | 16     | 11.0     | 9-13       | 11   | 16                  | 45%      | 5        |  |                     |  |
| Sexual Offences                                     | 15     | 8.6      | 7-24       | 17   | 15                  | -12%     | -2       |  |                     |  |
| PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)           | 533    | 699.0    | 643-755    | 611  | 533                 | -13%     | -78      |  |                     |  |
| Business B&E  | 23     | 43.6     | 29-58      | 31   | 23                  | -26%     | -8       |  |                     |  |
| Residential B&E                                     | 39     | 78.4     | 55-101     | 47   | 39                  | -17%     | -8       |  |                     |  |
| Auto Theft  | 18     | 27.0     | 19-35      | 35   | 18                  | -49%     | -17      |  |                     |  |
| Theft from Auto                                     | 134    | 216.0    | 190-242    | 190  | 134                 | -29%     | -56      |  |                     |  |
| Theft   | 58     | 96.4     | 82-111     | 70   | 58                  | -17%     | -12      |  |                     |  |
| Shoplifting   | 71     | 64.0     | 54-74      | 63   | 71                  | 13%      | 8        |  |                     |  |
| Fraud   | 75     | 72.4     | 59-86      | 72   | 75                  | 4%       | 3        |  |                     |  |
| OTHER CRIMINAL CODE<br>(UCR 3000-Series Offences)   | 213    | 167.2    | 160-174    | 160  | 213                 | 33%      | 53       |  |                     |  |
| Arson<br>UCR 1629, 2110                             | 7      | 2.8      | 2-4        | 2    | 7                   | 250%     | 5        |  |                     |  |
| SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES<br>(UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)   | 896    | 989.6    | 929-1050   | 904  | 896                 | -1%      | -8       |  |                     |  |
| DRUGS<br>(UCN 4000-Series Offences)                 | 41     | 72.0     | 13-131     | 189  | 41                  | -78%     | -148     |  |                     |  |
| MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag) | 124    | 140.6    | 109-172    | 165  | 124                 | -25%     | -41      |  |                     |  |

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2021-02-01. Published 2021-02-02. These data are operational and subject to change. This document is not to be copied, reproduced, used in whole or part or disseminated to any other person or agency without the consent of the originator(s).









# **CRIME PREVENTION**

# **WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME**

**NEWSLETTER** 

# Fraud and Scam Alert

The Canadian government has handed out billions in Canadian Emergency Response Benfits (CERB) since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Scammers have been using this opportunity to defraud victims and the program by stealing identities and redirecting CERB payments.

Many frauds and scams attempt to mimic real government services to gain access to personal and financial information. Beware of fraudulent emails, texts or calls about repaying the CERB. Please note that the



Government of Canada will not reach out by text or email to ask you to apply for the CERB and will not notify you by text or email regarding a receipt of payment.

Applying for the CERB is free and there are only 2 ways to apply, fill out an online application on the Government of Canada website or by calling 1-833-966-2099.

## **Be Fraud Aware**

- Beware of unsolicited calls or emails that ask you to confirm or update your personal or financial information.
- Don't give out personal information.
- Don't be afraid to say no.
- Don't react impulsively, scrutinize urgent requests.
- Ask questions and talk to family members or friends.
- Request the information in writing.
- If in doubt, hang up.
- Watch out for urgent pleas that play on your emotions.
- Always verify that the organization you're dealing with is legitimate.

#### What to Do If You're a Victim of Fraud

- Contact your financial institutions.
- Report it to the police locally and at the destination of the funds.
- Report it to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, Equifax and TransUnion.
- Protect yourself from future fraud. Place a fraud alert with the credit bureaus Equifax and TransUnion.
- Monitor your online accounts often and change your online passwords regularly.

# RICHMOND RCMP CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

# **Tips for Pedestrians Crossing**

- Wear bright or reflective clothing at night or in low-light conditions is highly recommended.
- Always use crosswalks and follow the pedestrian signs and traffic signals.
- Try to be visible for the drivers. Do not hide behind poles, bus shelters, or anything that may obstruct a driver's view of you as they approach the intersection.
- Never assume drivers can see you: make eye contact with drivers, as it's hard to see pedestrians when visibility is poor especially in fall and winter.



- Remove your ear buds/headphones and do not use your phone or other electronic devices while crossing.
- Look both ways before crossing and continue to do so until you have finished crossing, in case there are any new vehicles approaching the crossing who may not have seen you.
- Keep your head up, whether on the sidewalk or street, so you can look ahead and around to be aware of the surrounding.

# **Burglar Proof Your Windows**

Windows are known to be the weakest point of entry into your home but there are ways to enhance its security. Burglars don't want to call attention to themselves so delaying them and drawing attention to them are great ways in preventing break-ins. Here are some of the things you can do:



- Install double and triple-pane windows. They are more difficult to break and are quite loud when broken.
- Secure windows with additional locks, like pin locks and latch locks.
- Install security window films. There are different types of security
  window film; the thicker it is, the greater resistance to impact it has.
  You can purchase window films in clear color or tinted shades, which
  can provide extra privacy to your home. The binding agent keeps glass
  from shattering upon impact, similar principle as those found in
  automotive glass. Correctly installing security window film requires a
  high degree of skill, please consult or hire a professional installers.
- Install security bar with anti-lift lock on sliding windows.
- Make sure all windows are closed and locked before leaving home.
- Install glass break sensor on windows.

# **Understanding Cyberbullying:**

Cyberbullying is when someone becomes a target of actions by others online, via computers, cellphones or other devices, with the intentions to embarrass, humiliate, torment, threaten or harass. It can happen to anyone, at any time and at any age. Often, it is repeated and occurs over a long period of time; however, the affect of 1,000 harmful comments on a single humiliating photo can already post serious damage to one's feelings, self-esteem, reputation and mental health. With all the different communication technologies nowadays, one can access the internet at all times. Unlike face-to-face bullying, cyberbullying can be relentless. It can follow a victim everywhere 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from school, to the mall and all the way into the comfort of their home - where it's usually safe from traditional forms of bullying. It spreads quickly to a wide group of audience and can become viral in matter of minutes. Cyberbullying is emotionally damaging and can lead to tragic consequences.

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# **Examples of Cyberbullying:**

- Sending unkind or threatening messages by text, email, comments or posts on social media pages.
- Spreading rumours, secrets or gossip about someone through texts, instant messages, email or social media sites.
- Posting a humiliating picture or video of someone
   on social media or circulating it via texts, instant messages, email without that person's knowledge or permission
- Posting online stories, pictures, videos, or memes that are intended to humiliate or embarrass someone.
- Hacking into someone's social media profile or email account, pretending to be them, and sending harmful content to others.
- Screen capturing an embarrassing or personal conversation with someone and sharing it with other people online.
- Getting other people to gang up on someone in an online group chat and make negative comments or threats.
- "Liking" a negative comment on a social media post participating on the sideline and becomes part of the problem without realizing it.

# **Help Prevent Cyberbullying**

- Talk to your children about cyberbullying. Learn about their online activites and set ground rules.
- Use your privacy settings. Keep your content online as private as possible on all the sites and platforms you use. Check and adjust privacy settings often because it can change as companies update their privacy policies.
- Think before you post or send anything to anyone online. In the wrong hands, any photo or video could be used in a way you never intended.
- Do not feel pressure into sharing photos, videos or other details about yourself. Just because a lot of people are doing it does not mean you have to too.
- Support those who have been targeted, and if you know anyone who cyberbullies, tell them to stop.
- If you see negative comments or behaviours toward someone else online, do not participate and take a stand.
- Report cyberbullying to the social media site and block the person responsible.

# **BUSINESS LINK**

# WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

**NEWSLETTER** 

# **Secure Your Business**

Many businesses are temporary closed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Businesses are left unoccupied for an extended period of time and thieves are taking advantage of this opportunity to break in. We encourage business owners to take extra precautions in securing their businesses to prevent additional finance loss on top of the loss in revenue due to store closures.

- Move merchandise away from windows and out of view or remove it from the retail space altogether.
- Use window shutters to minimize damage and reduce visibility.
- · Hire security guard to do overnight, onsite patrols.
- Install and turn on all security alarms and/or cameras.
- Increase outdoor lighting levels to ensure the space around your business is visible and well-lit.
- Keep premises clean and tidy to show that it is a well-cared for property.





Please help by reporting any suspicious behaviour: RCMP Non-Emergency line **604-278-1212**. If you witness a crime in progress, dial **9-1-1**.



- Ensure alarm company has updated and accurate property representative's contact information
- Check up on the business often and during different hours.
- Installing extra locks on all points of entry.
- Install motion sensor or timer-activated lightning.
- Do not leave any equipment in plain view.
- Add warning signs of security measures to protect the site.
- Lock up all gates with heavy duty padlocks before leaving.

#### **Email Break & Enter Alerts**

To receive email alerts of neighbourhood commercial break and enters, register your business name and street address at:



RCMP Business Link@richmond.ca